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BRENTANO'S VIEWS OF AMERICAN CITIES.

VIEWS

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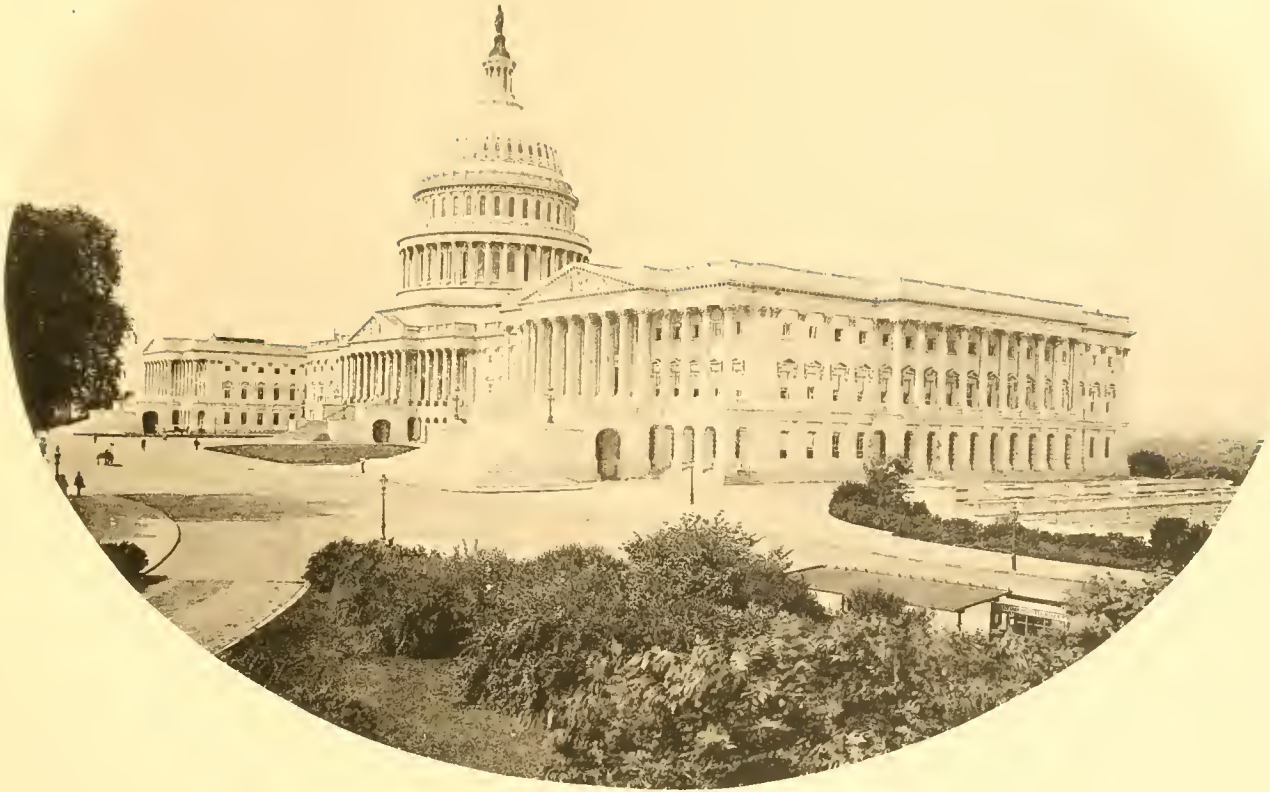
## The Capitol



OCCUPIES a commanding site on what is known as Capitol Hill. The cornerstone of the old Capitol, which is composed of Virginia sandstone, and now forms the centre of the imposing building, was laid by General Washington on the 18th day of September, 1794. Though the designs for it were drawn by William Thornton, an English resident of New York, the old Capitol is really the work of Benjamin Henry Latrobe, a famous English architect of the time. He it was who began rebuilding the Capitol after the British had burned it in 1814, and continued his work of restoration till 1817, when he resigned, and was replaced by Charles Bulfinch, a Bostonese architect. The latter followed Latrobe's plans in all particulars, and finished the building in 1827. The wings, which are of white marble, were added in 1851, and were designed by Thomas U. Walter, of Philadelphia, who prepared also the drawings for the dome. In 1867 the Capitol of the United States of America was completed.

The Capitol is 751 feet long and 324 feet wide, covering nearly four acres of ground. The total height from the base line of the eastern front of the building to the crest of the statue of Freedom which surmounts the dome is 307½ feet. The diameter of the dome is 135½ feet. The ground floor of the north wing is occupied by the Senate, and contains the famous bronze door designed by Randolph Rogers. The south wing contains the Hall of Representatives. On this floor are also the great Rotunda, the National Statuary Hall, the Library of Congress, and the Supreme Court Room. The Rotunda is in the centre of the original Capitol, and is 180 feet high.

Horatio Greenough's celebrated statue of George Washington occupies a position on the eastern grounds of the building, facing the grand portico. The grounds around the Capitol have been tastefully laid out. The total amount appropriated by Congress since 1800 for the construction of the Capitol is \$15,000,000.







## The Senate Chamber



IS situated in the north wing of the Capitol. It is 112 feet long, 82 feet wide, and 30 feet high. The ceiling is constructed of iron girders and cross pieces with glass panels decorated with national emblems. The walls are decorated in gold and buff. The floor is covered with a heavy carpet, and the desks and chairs of the Senators are arranged in concentric semicircles. The President of the Senate sits on a small dais, before a wide desk. At his right is the Sergeant-at Arms, and at his left sits the assistant door-keeper. A gallery is reserved for the members of the foreign legations, and galleries for the friends of the members of the Senate. The gallery for the representatives of the press is directly over the chair of the President. These galleries, together with the galleries for the public, will seat upwards of 1,000 persons.

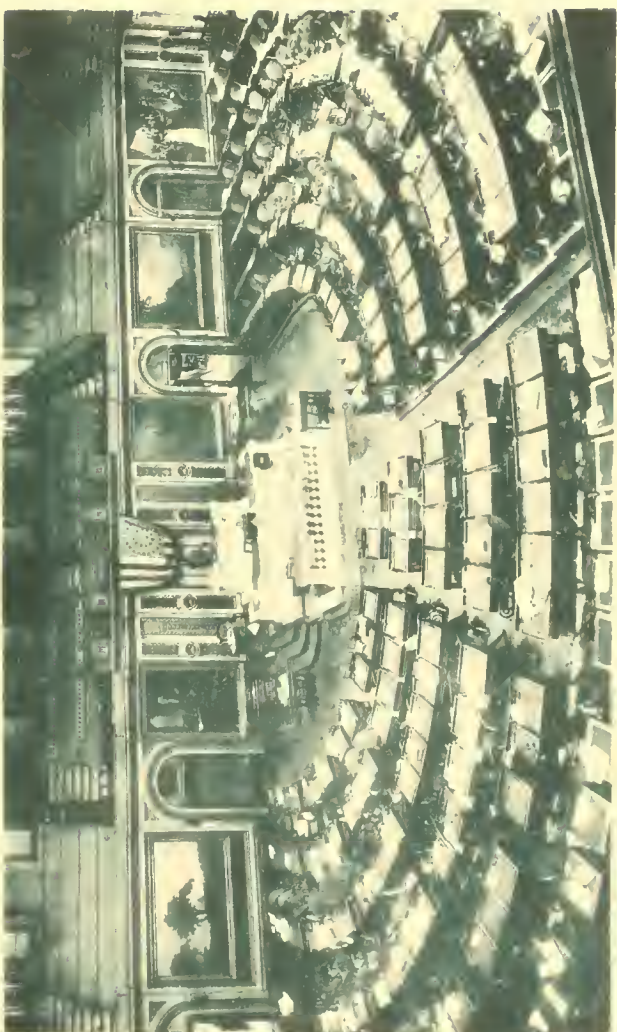
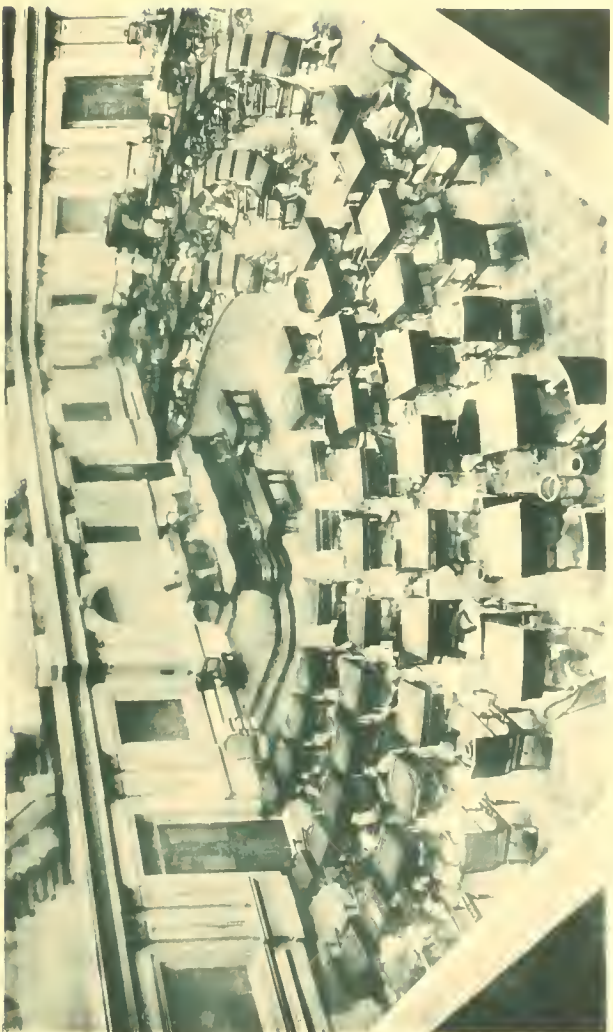
## The Hall of the House of Representatives



IS 139 feet long, 93 feet wide, and 36 feet high. It is situated in the south wing of the Capitol. The chairs and desks of the Representatives are arranged in the same manner as in the Senate Chamber. The Speaker's chair is placed on a platform. On the right of the Speaker is a stand on which the mace is placed when Congress is in session. The ceiling is profusely gilded and decorated with panels bearing the coats-of-arms of the different states. The galleries offer ample room for 2,000 visitors.

The 325 Representatives in Congress are apportioned at present (1889) as follows : Alabama, 8 ; Arkansas, 5 ; California, 6 ; Colorado, 1 ; Connecticut, 4 ; Delaware, 1 ; Florida, 2 ; Georgia, 10 ; Illinois, 20 ; Indiana, 13 ; Iowa, 11 ; Kansas, 7 ; Kentucky, 11 ; Louisiana, 6 ; Maine, 4 ; Maryland, 6 ; Massachusetts, 12 ; Michigan, 11 ; Minnesota, 5 ; Mississippi, 7 ; Missouri, 14 ; Nebraska, 3 ; Nevada, 1 ; New Hampshire, 2 ; New Jersey, 7 ; New York, 34 ; North Carolina, 9 ; Ohio, 21 ; Oregon, 1 ; Pennsylvania, 28 ; Rhode Island, 2 ; South Carolina, 7 ; Tennessee, 10 ; Texas, 11 ; Vermont, 2 ; Virginia, 10 ; West Virginia, 4 ; Wisconsin, 9







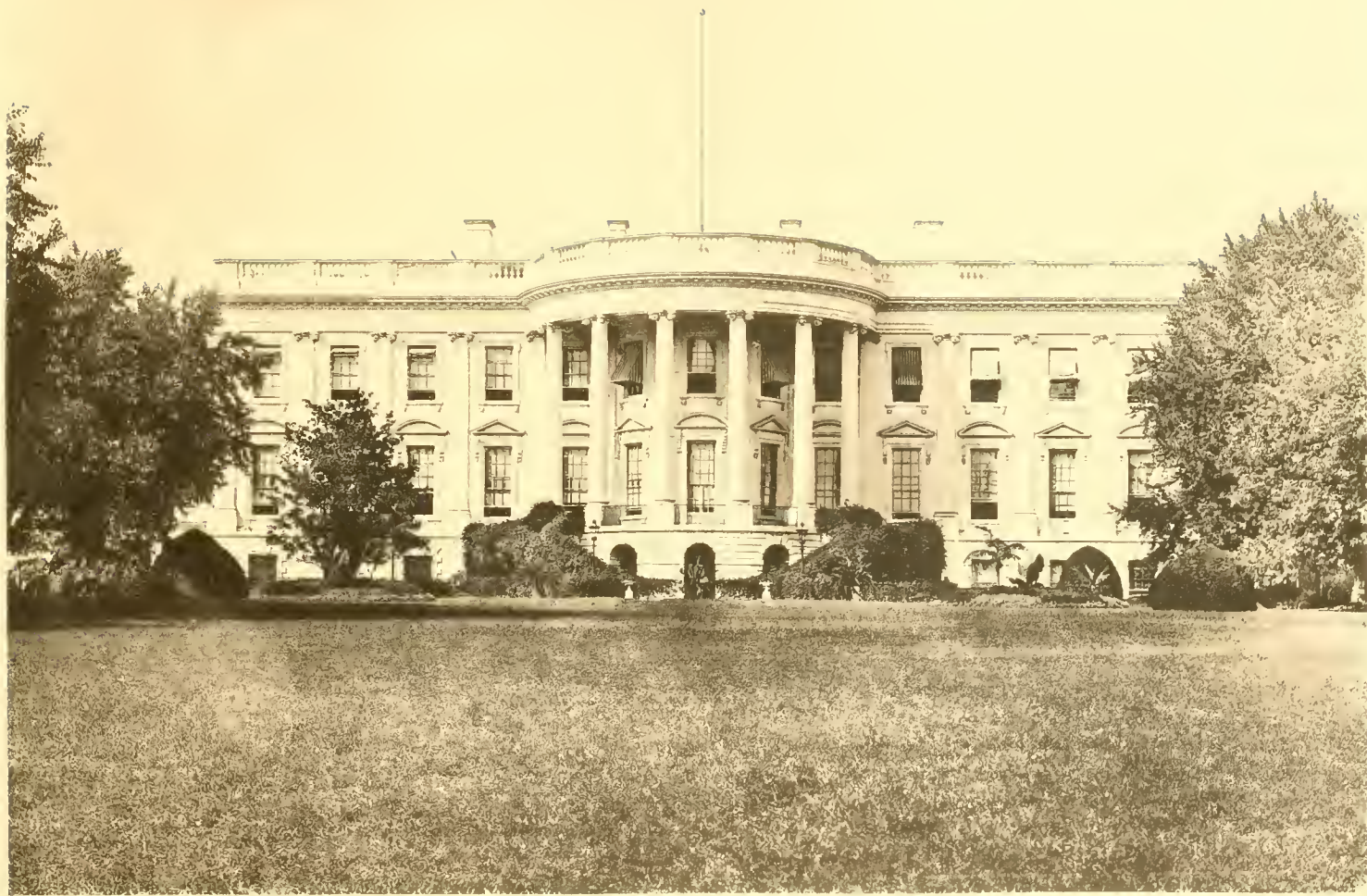


## The White House.



OUTH front, overlooks a park sloping gradually to the banks of the Potomac, and offers a magnificent prospect of the wooded hills of Virginia and Maryland. This park belongs to the government reservation called "The President's Grounds," in which the White House is situated. The basement, which is invisible from the Pennsylvania side, is entirely above ground here, owing to the sloping of the ground, and gives the edifice a façade of three stories. Directly in front of the south portico is a stand from which open-air concerts are given every Saturday afternoon during the summer season, which are free to the public.

The main plan of the White House was copied by Hogan from the Duke of Leinster's mansion at Dublin, and, as it stands to-day, the "President's Palace" is a faithful copy of the Irish nobleman's house. The portico with the Ionic columns at the front of the building was placed there in 1829 by President Jackson. Otherwise no alterations or additions have been made to it since its completion in the latter part of 1799. The White House is now inadequate to the social and official surroundings of the American President, and it is proposed to retain the present building for the executive office, and to erect a new and more spacious Executive Mansion.









## The Green Room



IS furnished and decorated in green, a pale green wall-paper with sprays of gold covering the walls. At official receptions the President receives his guests in this room, where they are presented to him by the Marshal of the District of Columbia. After their presentation the guests retire to the other state apartments. The Green Room contains also the life-size painting of Mrs. Rutherford B. Hayes, by Huntington. The canvas is over seven feet high; the oaken frame was made by the Cincinnati School of Design, and is over ten feet in height. This picture of Mrs. Hayes was presented to the nation by the National Temperance Union in 1881. In this room hang also portraits of Mrs. Polk and Mrs. Tyler.

## The Blue Room



IS oval in form, and decorated and furnished in light blue. In this room the President receives on ceremonial or social occasions. The walls are tastefully ornamented in blue and gold, and the upholstery in silk with gold trimmings is superb. This room opens into the Red Room, which is the President's family drawing-room, and in turn gives access to the State Dining-room.









## The War, State, and Navy Departments



OCCUPY the immense structure in Renaissance style on Pennsylvania Avenue, west of the White House, which was erected in 1871-87, from designs by A. B. Mullett. It is 567 feet long, with 342 feet frontage, and is 142 feet high. It covers 4½ acres of ground, and cost \$10,700,000. The State Department occupies the south front, the War Department the north front, and the Navy Department the east front. In one of the rooms of the War Department is a collection of pictures of former Secretaries of War, and another room contains portraits of famous soldiers. The headquarters of the army are also established here, and contain portraits of all the commanders-in-chief from Washington to Sheridan. From 1775 to the present day the army has had 17 commanders-in-chief, but Congress conferred the full title of General on only four of them—Washington, Grant, Sherman, and Sheridan.

The Department of State embraces a Diplomatic Bureau, a Consular Bureau, a Bureau of Indexes and Archives, a Bureau of Accounts, a Bureau of Statistics, a Bureau of Rolls, and several minor divisions. The great seal of the United States is kept in this department, which contains also the first draught of the Declaration of Independence and of the Federal Constitution, Washington's commission as commander-in-chief of the American army, letters and papers of Washington, Jefferson, Madison and some of the other early Presidents, and many other precious documents and relics of the War of Independence.









## The Treasury Building.



N the east side of the Executive Mansion, is constructed of Virginia freestone and Maine granite. It is 460 feet long, and has a frontage of 264 feet on Pennsylvania Avenue. It is Grecian in architecture, three stories high, and surmounted by a balustrade. The façades on the northwest and south have porticoes of Ionic columns, cut out of immense monoliths quarried in Maine.

The Treasury Department was established by an act of Congress in 1789. This act created the office of Secretary of the Treasury, and confided to his care the entire charge of the finances of the government, which had hitherto been in the hands of commissioners. The first Treasury building—a small, wooden structure—was burned to the ground in 1814 by British troops. The second building was also destroyed by fire in 1833. The cornerstone of this present building was laid by President Jackson, Robert Mills being the architect. It was completed in 1841, and the extensions were added in 1855, from designs made by Thomas U. Walter. These extensions were completed in 1869. The building had cost up to that time over \$7,000,000, and since then immense sums have been spent in alterations and decorations. It contains 200 rooms, exclusive of the vaults in the basement. The principal divisions of the Treasury Department are: the offices of the First and Second Comptroller, the Commissioner of Customs, the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, the Treasurer of the U. S., the Register of the Treasury, the Comptroller of the Currency, the Director of the Mint, and the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Auditors.









## The Army Medical Museum



N Tenth Street was the scene of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln on Friday, April 14, 1865, the day after the celebration of the close of the Civil War. Opposite the museum is the Peterson house whither the Emancipator was carried and where he died on the following day. A marble tablet on the house bears the record of Lincoln's death. Ford's Theatre, as the building was called at the time of the assassination, was purchased by the government in 1866. It was entirely reconstructed, and is now used for the Army Medical Museum, and pension division of the Surgeon General's Department.







## The Soldiers' Home



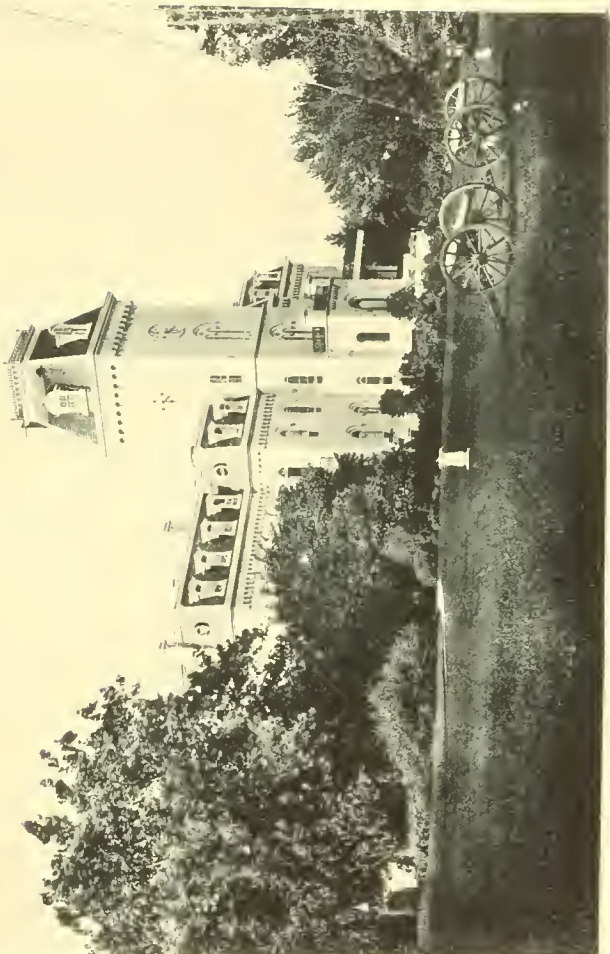
is situated a short distance from Washington on the Rock Creek road in the District of Columbia. The main building is constructed of white marble, has a frontage of 200 feet and a tall central tower. The wing is 60 feet in length. Several marble cottages, occupied by the officials, are situated in the grounds, which cover an area of 500 acres, as is also a summer house for the Presidents of the United States. The home was founded in 1851 at the suggestion of General Winfield Scott, whose statue occupies a commanding position on the grounds, with the money levied by him on the City of Mexico for violation of the truce. Veterans of the Mexican War, and privates of the regular army who have served faithfully for twenty years, or have been disabled in the service of the country, are entitled to residence in this institution, which by reason of the excellent care taken of its inmates fully deserves the name of Home. It is under the supervision of a board of high army officers, presided over by the Lieutenant-General commanding the American Army.

## The Navy Yard



is located on the Anacostia, the eastern branch of the Potomac. It contains two ship-houses, a copper-rolling mill, a naval storehouse, foundries, and shops for the manufacture of ordnance, and all the various articles used in the equipment of war vessels. The yard comprises 42 acres of ground. In the naval museum attached to it are many interesting relics of olden times, among them being a Spanish gun, cast in 1490, brought to America by Cortez, and which was used in the conquest of Peru; a mortar taken from Cornwallis, and many other objects of interest. The Marine Barracks, where the marine corps of the United States Navy is quartered, are also near the Navy Yard. Nearly all the great war vessels possessed by the United States during the last fifty years were built at this establishment.









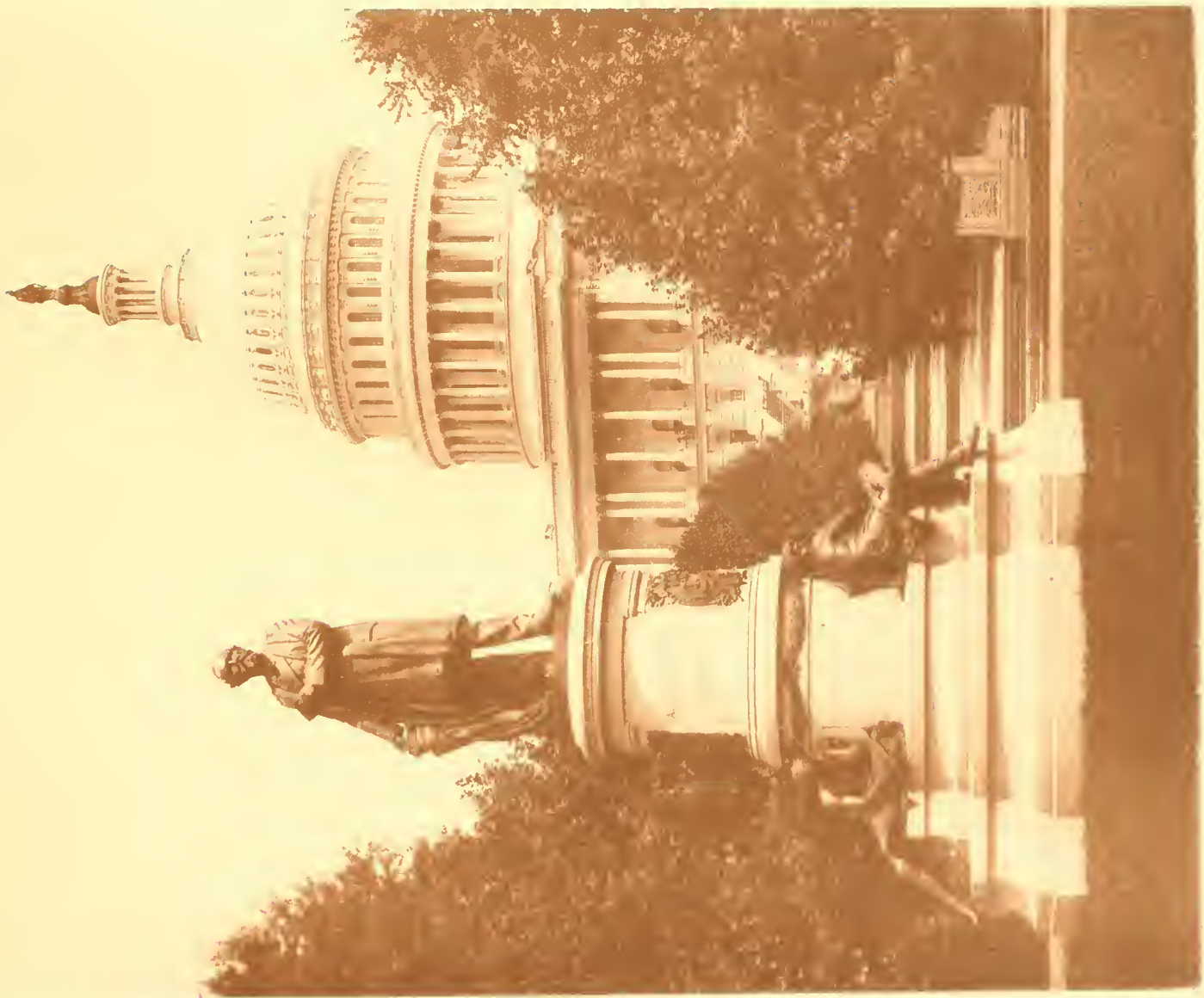
## The Garfield Statue,



Y John Q. A. Ward, stands at the Maryland Avenue entrance to the Capitol Park. It was erected by President Garfield's comrades of the Army of the Cumberland in 1887. The statue is of bronze, and cost \$33,500. The pedestal with the recumbent figures representing the Student, the Warrior, and the Statesman, was erected by Congress at a cost of \$31,500. The total height of the statue is 18 feet.

The Garfield Memorial Church is on Vermont Avenue, between N and O Streets. In the small chapel which formerly stood on this site President Garfield worshiped for many years, and his pew, draped in black and bearing a silver tablet, has been placed in the present edifice.

In the waiting-room of the Washington station of the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad, where President Garfield was shot on July 2, 1881, is a marble memorial tablet, erected by the railroad company directly over the spot where he fell.







## The Statue of General Jackson



AS unveiled on the 8th of January, 1853. It is the work of Clark Mills, and was cast from the brass guns and mortars captured by the hero of New Orleans. The statue is about one-third larger than life, and weighs 15 tons. The horse is poised upon its hind feet without being secured by the usual bars and rivets. The statue occupies the centre of Lafayette Square opposite the White House. Its total cost was \$57,000.

## The Statue of Rear Admiral Samuel F. Dupont,



Y Launt Thompson, stands in the center of the circle at the intersection of Massachusetts and Connecticut Avenues. It was ordered by Congress in 1882, and erected in 1884, Hon Thomas F. Bayard delivering the oration. The statue represents the Admiral in full uniform, standing on the quarter deck, marine glass in hand. The pedestal is composed of gray granite, on a base of blue rock. The total cost of the statue was \$14,000.

## The Equestrian Statue of General George H. Thomas



ANDS on Thomas Circle, at the intersection of Fourteenth Street, Massachusetts and Vermont Avenues. The statue was erected by the Society of the Army of the Cumberland Congress having provided the money for the pedestal. Statue and pedestal are 32 feet high, and cost \$75,000. The pedestal is of granite, ornamented with bronze tablets on which are the insignia of the Army of the Cumberland. The statue was unveiled on the 10th day of November, the oration being delivered by Hon Stanley Matthews.









## The Washington Monument



RISES to the height of 555 feet from its base, and is 572 feet above the surface of the surrounding country, as it stands on a terrace 17 feet high. The foundation of the shaft is 126 feet square, and is 37 feet below its base. It is constructed of solid blue rock and bears a weight of 81,120 tons. The base of the monument is 55 feet square, the lower walls measuring 15 feet in thickness. At the height of 500 feet, where the pyramidal cap begins, the walls are 35 feet square, and 18 inches thick. The inside of the walls is of granite laid in regular courses with the marble on the outside, except for the first 150 feet from the base where the granite has not been laid in regular courses. The top is entirely constructed of marble. The cap stone is 5 feet  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, and about 3 feet square at its base. The aluminium tip which finishes the pyramid is 9 inches in height,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter at the base and weighs  $6\frac{1}{4}$  pounds. In the interior of the lower walls are set a number of memorial stones sent by states, corporations, and foreign governments, to be embodied in the monument. The interior of the shaft is fitted with iron steps, 900 to the 500 feet, and an elevator runs to the top. The monument is lighted by electricity, the only windows in it being in the lower course of the roof-stones, two on each side.

The cornerstone of the monument was laid on July 4th, 1848. Work was begun at once, and continued till 1854, when it was suspended for lack of funds. In 1876 the government took charge of the construction, and Colonel T. L. Casey, of the Corps of Engineers, detailed to superintend the work. He set the capstone on December 6, 1884, in the presence of President Arthur, W. W. Corcoran, M. E. Bell, Edward Clark, and John Newton. The monument was dedicated on the 21st of February, 1885.







## Arlington



CONTAINS the largest and most important of the 82 military burial grounds established throughout the country by the United States government. It contains the graves of over 16,000 soldiers, the most interesting monument in the cemetery being the granite tomb erected over the remains of 2,111 unknown soldiers gathered from the battle fields of Bull Run and on the route to the Rappahannock. The estate comprises 1,160 acres and was originally part of the vast land grant made to Robert Howson by Sir William Berkeley, governor of Virginia in the reign of George II. The present Arlington estate was purchased by John Custis, the great-grandfather of George Washington Parke Custis, and remained in the possession of his descendants until the beginning of the Rebellion, when it was confiscated by the U. S. government. Subsequently the government paid \$150,000 for it to George Washington Custis Lee, the eldest son of the great Confederate leader.

## General Lee's Home



THE Arlington consists of a large centre building with two wings. It is constructed of brick covered with stucco, and has a frontage of 140 feet. The lofty portico of the mansion is supported by eight majestic columns. The view of the surrounding country which this portico offers, is one of the finest in the world, comprising as it does the sweep of the river and the imposing buildings of the national capital. The house at Arlington gains additional historical interest from the fact that George Washington also has inhabited it with his wife.









## Mount Vernon



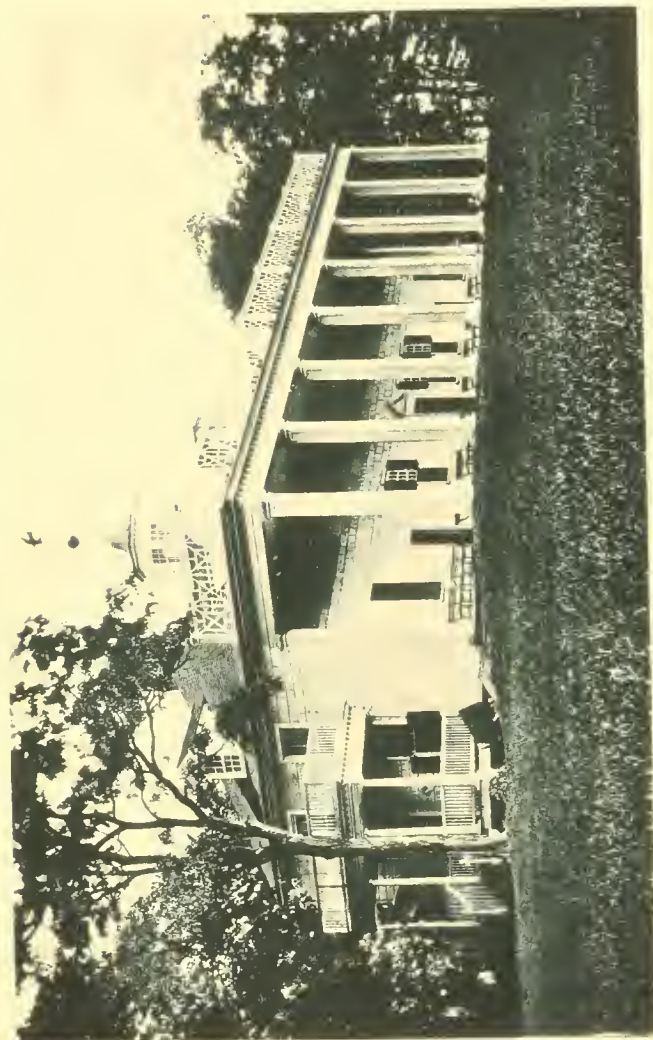
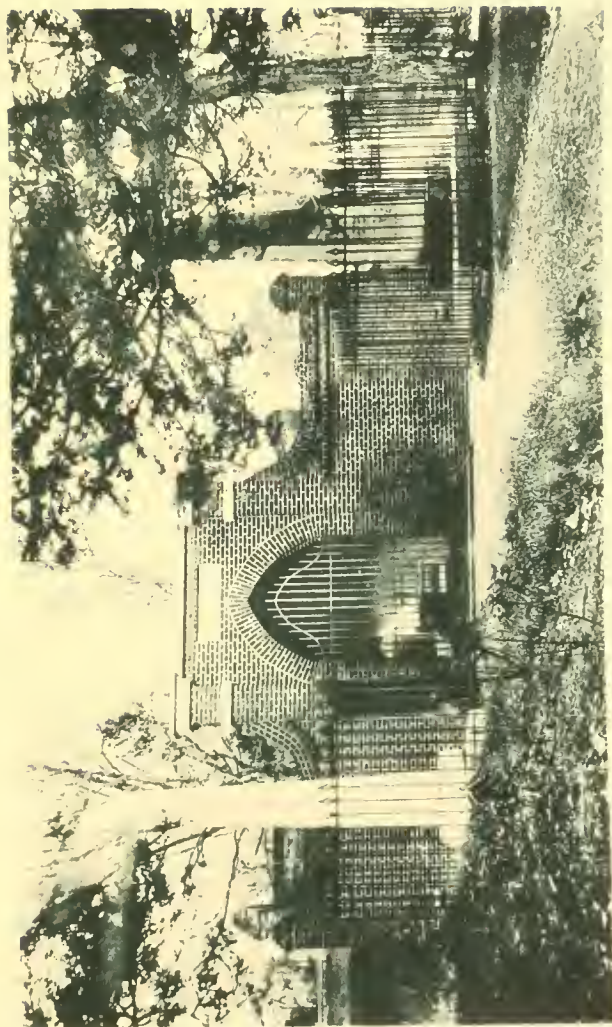
IS situated on the western bank of the Potomac, in Fairfax County, Virginia, 16 miles from Washington. What is now known as Mount Vernon is but a small part of the original plantation, and is in possession of the Ladies' Mount Vernon Association, incorporated in 1856. The mansion fronts to the northwest, with its rear, on which is the piazza, looking towards the river. It is constructed of wood, painted in imitation of stone, has two stories and an attic and is 96 feet long, and 30 feet wide. The room in which the First President died on December 14th, 1799, is on the second story. It contains the bedstead on which he lay in his last hours, and has been religiously preserved as it was in the days when the founder of American Independence occupied it. Many relics of Washington are kept in the building, among them being the key of the Bastille presented to him by the Marquis de Lafayette, while the room which Martha Washington occupied after her husband's death, and Lafayette's room are also shown to visitors.

## The Tomb of George Washington



IS situated a short distance south of the mansion. The exterior tomb is constructed of brick, with a high, arched entrance, closed by an iron gate, above which, on a plain slab, are the words: "Within this enclosure rest the remains of General George Washington." Over the interior tomb is a stone panel, with the inscription: "I am the Resurrection and the Life; he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." The marble sarcophagus containing Washington's remains is placed directly in front of the entrance, and is visible from without. It is cut out of one solid piece of marble, and bears on its covering stone the coat of arms of the United States, sculptured on a draped flag, and the name "Washington." A few feet from it is a similar sarcophagus, inscribed, "Martha, Consort of Washington. Died May 21, 1801, aged 71 years." The vault at the rear of the enclosure contains the remains of Judge Bushrod Washington, and other members of the Washington family. In front of the tomb are two marble monuments erected in memory of Judge Washington and John Augustine Washington.









## The National Museum



AS erected in 1879 by the government as an annex to the Smithsonian Institution. It was originally designed to contain the art treasures exhibited by foreign governments at the Centennial Exhibition,—which were presented to the United States, but its scope has gradually been widened, and it now is a general museum in which all the geological and industrial collections of the government are kept on exhibition. It also contains the Washington relics. It is built of brick, in variegated courses, and mainly but one story high, the pavilions at the four corners are three stories in height, and the four entrances are flanked by towers. The dome in the centre rises to a height of 168 feet. On the ground floor are 17 halls, divided only by the columns supporting the roof, and on the main floor and on the two upper stories of the pavilions and the towers there are 135 rooms, which are devoted to offices, working rooms, etc. The floors are constructed of tiles laid in artistic forms.

The museum contains large collections of industrial products, historical relics, and ethnological objects, and its collections are rapidly becoming the largest and most complete in the world.









## The Post Office



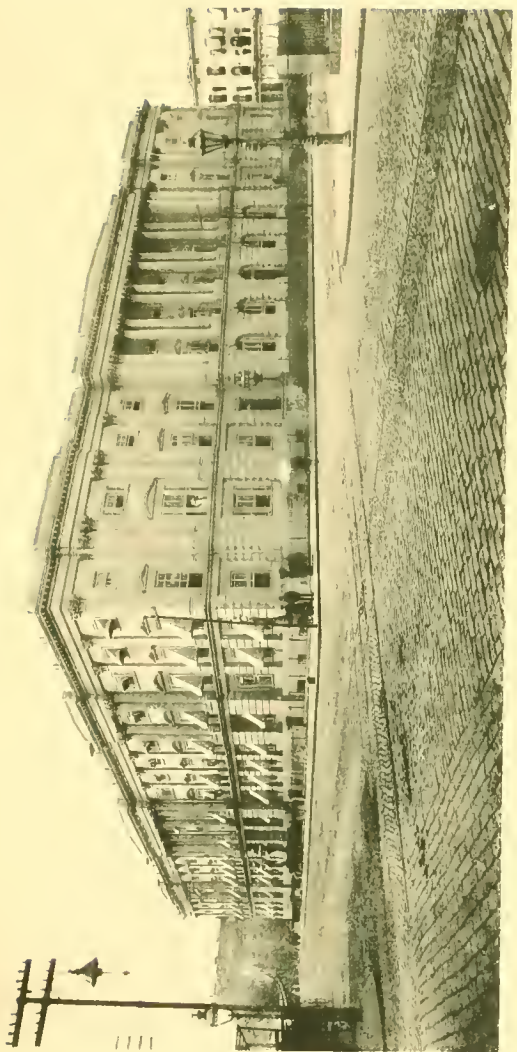
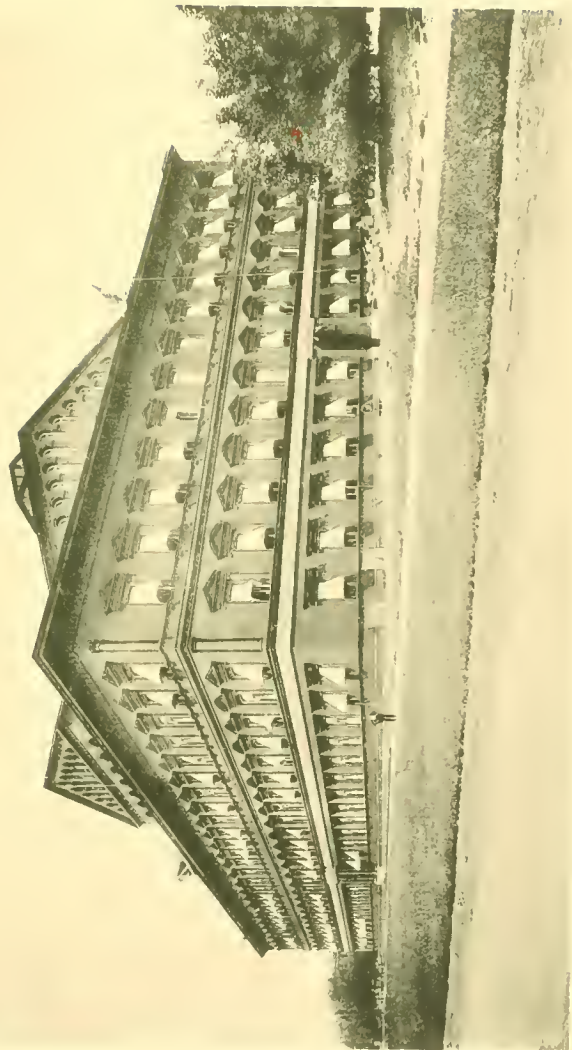
OCCUPIES the square situated between Seventh and Eighth and E and F Streets, Northwest. Its foundations were laid in 1839, the D street portion having been designed by Robert Mills, while the extension was designed by T. U. Walter, and commenced in June, 1855. The style is pure Corinthian, the materials used in its construction being New York and Maryland white marble. It is 311 feet long by 244 feet broad, two stories high, resting on a rustic basement, and contains deep vaults.

There are at present 47,683 post-offices in the United States, which require the services of 67,000 officials. The Dead-Letter Office is one of the most interesting branches of the postal service. Nearly 15,000 letters are received here daily from different parts of the country exclusive of packages and other mail matter. About 1,000 letters are forwarded every year to this office without any address whatever on the envelope. One of the greatest curiosities in the Post-Office Department is the book of post-office accounts kept by Dr. Franklin, the first Postmaster-General of the Colonies.

## The Pension Office



LI SITUATED on the northeast corner of Judiciary Square, near G Street. It is built in Renaissance style of dressed cut stone. The main portion of the building is 400 feet long by 200 feet broad, the walls being 75 feet high. The walls enclose an interior courtyard, which has a high vaulted iron and glass, and is crowned with a dome. A notable feature of the exterior decoration is the band of sculpture in terra cotta on the level of the second story, three feet in height and 120 feet long, which represents various scenes of a soldier's life, with incidents from the career of a min- o-war's man. The terra cotta ornaments, medallions, and cornices are also very handsome. The Pension Office disburses annually \$30,000,000 for pensions, and as much more for arrears of pensions. The total cost of the building was about \$500,000.

















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